Attorney Reference: 050885-0306961

Preliminary Amendment dated December 1, 2003

Page 4

## **REMARKS**

The present amendment amends the title and adds reference to the priority applications to the specification. No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP

sy: Relland

Richard A. Steinberg Registration No. 26,588

Direct No. (703) 905-2039

Paul L. Sharer

Registration No. 36,004

Direct No. (703) 905-2180

1600 Tysons Boulevard McLean, VA 22101 (703) 905-2000 Telephone (703) 905-2500 Facsimile

Date: December 1, 2003